

December 2, 2013

Attn: Paul Massera

California Water Plan Update 2013

California Department of Water Resources P.O.

Box 942836, Sacramento, CA 94236-0001



Re: Draft California Water Plan Update – Resource Management Strategies

Dear Mr. Massera:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft California Water Plan Update. The California Waterfowl Association is a statewide nonprofit organization whose principal objective is the conservation of the state's waterfowl, wetlands, and hunting heritage. CWA believes hunters have been the most important force in conserving waterfowl and wetlands.

CWA is particularly concerned about wetlands conservation and waterfowl habitat. The draft Update correctly notes that the state has lost approximately 90 percent of its historical wetlands (Objective 5 – Practice Environmental Stewardship, page 8-12). CWA is working to protect and manage what is left of the state's wetlands to maintain healthy populations of migratory waterfowl on the Pacific flyway. One of CWA's greatest challenges is ensuring an adequate water supply for waterfowl habitat.

CWA agrees with the Resource Management Strategies relating to environmental stewardship and restoration. In particular, CWA appreciates the references in Chapter 22 to the efforts of the Central Valley Joint Venture to restore wetlands habitat for bird species. Chapter 22 contains a table that highlights the investments of federal, state, local, and private dollars that have been made through the CVJV.

In Chapter 31, page 31-15, line 38, under the heading "Natural Resources Degradation," CWA recommends the insertion of the following sentence:

Hunting and viewing of migratory waterfowl require the timely flooding of seasonal and permanent wetlands with sufficient water to provide food resources, protective cover, and brooding areas.

Thank you for considering the water needs of California's waterfowl.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Jeffrey A. Volberg". Below the signature is a large, empty oval shape, likely a placeholder for a stamp or seal.

Jeffrey A. Volberg  
Director of Water Law & Policy

1346 Blue Oaks Boulevard, Roseville, CA 95678  
916.648.1406 • [www.calwaterfowl.org](http://www.calwaterfowl.org)